

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Boating Accident at Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, Calif. – On Saturday, August 4th, a boating accident occurred at Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area in San Bernardino County. Sarah Nogues, an eleven year-old girl from San Bernardino, died from injuries from the accident.

Two boats were involved in a collision at the north end of the lake's channel around 4 p.m. on Saturday. One of the boats was operated by Joe Alphonso, of Nuevo. The other boat was operated by Mark Julian Sooter, of Apple Valley. Sooter's boat sank in approximately 150 feet of water within minutes of the collision. The other boat remained afloat.

Coast Guard Auxiliary and State Park boats and personnel responded. The Coast Guard was first on the scene and helped injured victims from the water. State Park and Coast Guard personnel transported the injured to the launch ramp and provided medical aid. California Department of Forestry paramedics, Crest Forest Fire Department paramedics, and a San Bernardino County Sheriff Air Rescue Helicopter and a Mercy Air Ambulance Helicopter also responded.

From Mr. Alphonso's boat, one adult and three children were injured, including Sarah Nogues, who was transported to Loma Linda University Medical Center, where she died.

The accident is under further investigation.

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